

Office of the County Clerk

Cathy M. Garrett
Wayne County Clerk

April 27, 2010

Sheila C. Cummings
Michigan House of Representatives
Democratic Legal Counsel
Lansing, Michigan 48901

RE: House Bills 6031 – 6033 (Elections)

Greetings!

The Director of Elections forwarded the following HBs that were submitted to this office, April 22, 2010:

HB 6031-(Haase)-Elections; canvassing; reference in general law village act to board of village canvassers and board of township canvassers; revise to board of county canvassers.

HB 6032-(Lisa Brown)-Elections; canvassing; reference in community college act of 1966 to board of city or township canvassers; eliminate.

HB 6033-(Rogers)-Elections; canvassing; elimination of local boards of canvassers and amendment of process to balance precinct results.

Upon review of the above-mentioned bills, I have determined that they will cause a financial burden to this office, although I am not in complete opposition to the changes that will occur should these bills pass.

Currently, this office is in a budgetary crisis; with the passage of these bills, our financial burdens will only increase.

Some of the financial burdens that will escalate are:

1. The leasing of facilities to conduct the canvass will be doubled because we will be responsible for all elections every year.



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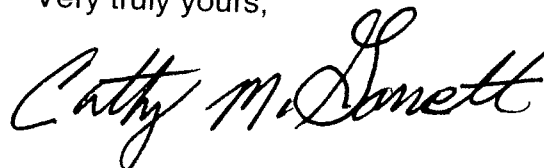
2. The costs associated with hiring personnel to conduct the canvassing of elections.

As you may be aware, many local communities have informed this office that it has become increasingly difficult to acquire personnel to work elections. With the added responsibility to canvass all elections, this will create yet another burden for the County.

I will be happy to appear at the next Committee Meeting to testify to my findings. Please let me know of the date and time of the meeting. If there is not sufficient time for me to appear, I am requesting that my statements be presented to the Committee before a final decision or vote has been made.

Thank you in advance for the opportunity to relay my thoughts with your office. Any questions relative to this matter may be directed to the Elections Division at 313-224-5525.

Very truly yours,



CATHY M. GARRETT
WAYNE COUNTY CLERK